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## Senate

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable JOHN E. SUNUNU, a Senator from the State of New Hampshire.

### PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Eternal spirit, You are our rock of safety. You are the Ancient of Days, yet the ever-new God. Thank you for Your mercies which are fresh each day. Your spirit restores our souls to newness of life. Because of You, we have discovered a new life, a new song, and a new hope that nothing in life or in death can dismay.

Today, bless the Members of this body. Guide their steps and inspire their hearts. May they use their talents to make the world better.

Be their strength and shield from every danger as You fill their hearts with joy. Lord, protect our military men and women who daily sacrifice to keep us free. Lead them like a shepherd and carry them forever in Your arms.

We pray in Your awesome Name. Amen

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable JOHN E. SUNUNU led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

### APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. STEVENS).

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,  
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,  
Washington, DC, April 28, 2005.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable JOHN E. SUNUNU, a Senator from the State of New Hampshire, to perform the duties of the Chair.

TED STEVENS,  
President pro tempore.

Mr. SUNUNU thereupon assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore.

### RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

### SCHEDULE

Mr. FRIST. Today we will begin our session with a 1-hour period of morning business, and following morning business, the Senate will begin debate on the highway bill. Senator INHOFE has been on the floor over the course of the last 3 days and has encouraged Members to offer their amendments. I encourage them to do so at this time. I ask Senators to contact the chairman and ranking member if they do intend to offer an amendment so they can plan accordingly. We will make further progress on the bill today and tomorrow. Senators should not wait until the last minute to offer their amendments. Please come forward today and tomorrow with those amendments.

Also, I remind everyone that last night we filed two cloture motions on two Cabinet-rank nominations: Rob Portman to be USTR, and Stephen Johnson to be Administrator of EPA. Those votes will occur on Friday unless we reach an agreement for a confirmation vote on those two important nominations.

We will also consider the budget and supplemental conference reports when they are available. Members continued to work well into the evening last evening on both of these conference reports. The budget conference report, as

my colleagues know, can be debated for up to a 10-hour statutory limit.

Having said that, Senators should be informed we have quite a bit of work to accomplish prior to our adjournment, and we are going to need to stay until we finish our business. Senators should expect rollcall votes each day.

### COMMENDING ANNICE M. WAGNER, CHIEF JUDGE OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COURT OF APPEALS

Mr. FRIST. I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs be discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 107 and the Senate now proceed to its immediate consideration.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 107) commending Annice M. Wagner, Chief Judge of the District of Columbia Court of Appeals, for her public service.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. FRIST. I ask unanimous consent the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motion to reconsider be laid on the table.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 107) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

#### S. RES. 107

Whereas Annice M. Wagner, Chief Judge of the District of Columbia Court of Appeals, entered Federal Government service in 1973 as the first woman to be appointed General Counsel of the National Capital Housing Authority, then a Federal agency;

Whereas, from 1975 to 1977, the Honorable Annice M. Wagner served as People's Counsel for the District of Columbia, an office created by Congress to represent the interests

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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